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PATENT APPLICATION

2853

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIROYUKI INOUE, et al.

Application No.: 08/796,519 ✓

Filed: February 7, 1997

For: INK CONTAINER FOR INK  
JET PRINTING, HOLDER FOR  
THE CONTAINER, CARRIAGE  
FOR THE HOLDER AND  
INK JET PRINTER

Examiner: C. Hallacher

Group Art Unit: 2853

May 21, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to European 547,874, a copy of which is enclosed and which is listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

This document was cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated April 17, 2002, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that the document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Moreover, inasmuch as this continued prosecution application has not yet received a first

Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

European 376,719, which was also cited in the Search Report was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated August 28, 1998.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200